

Marauder's map of The House of L'Stok



The House of L'Stok



The House of L'Stok is the personal imprint of
Kirok of L'Stok.

It's mission is to act as an experimental production group
for the development of strategies and resources for fan
productions and small scale original productions

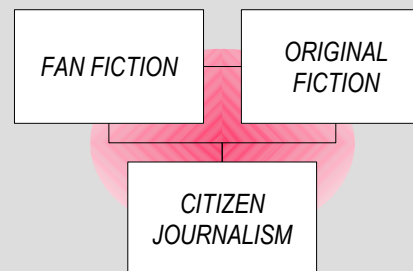


Level Zero - It all starts with the written word ...

I like to write. It's what I do. I interact with others on forums and by email and chat. However I often feel the urge to do more, writing articles, creating newsletters and fanzines ...

... occasionally fan fiction ...

... and, even more occasionally, original fiction ...



Obviously not everyone is interested in producing material for fanzines or podcasts but ...

Level 1 - Journalism



My base research is posted as reports on Trek United and Sci Fi Studios

... and extended on my Blogzine

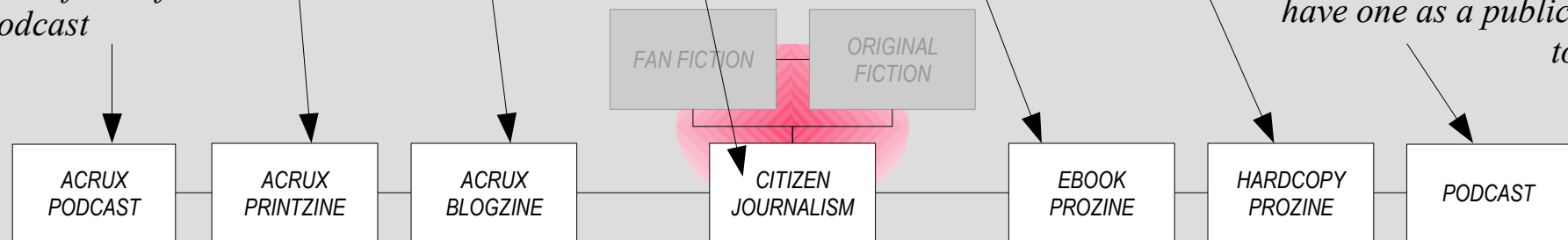
At bimonthly intervals, this builds into a fanzine with news and comment

... and on the alternate months the news and comment will be in the form of a podcast

A prozine – 'professional 'zine' – would be expected to give similar content but at a higher skill level PLUS original fiction. Some are virtually periodical anthologies. Creating and distributing it as an eBook is the entry level

... and publishing it as hardcopy would not be a great hurdle, but marketing it would be!

A professional podcast? Most production groups have one as a publicity tool

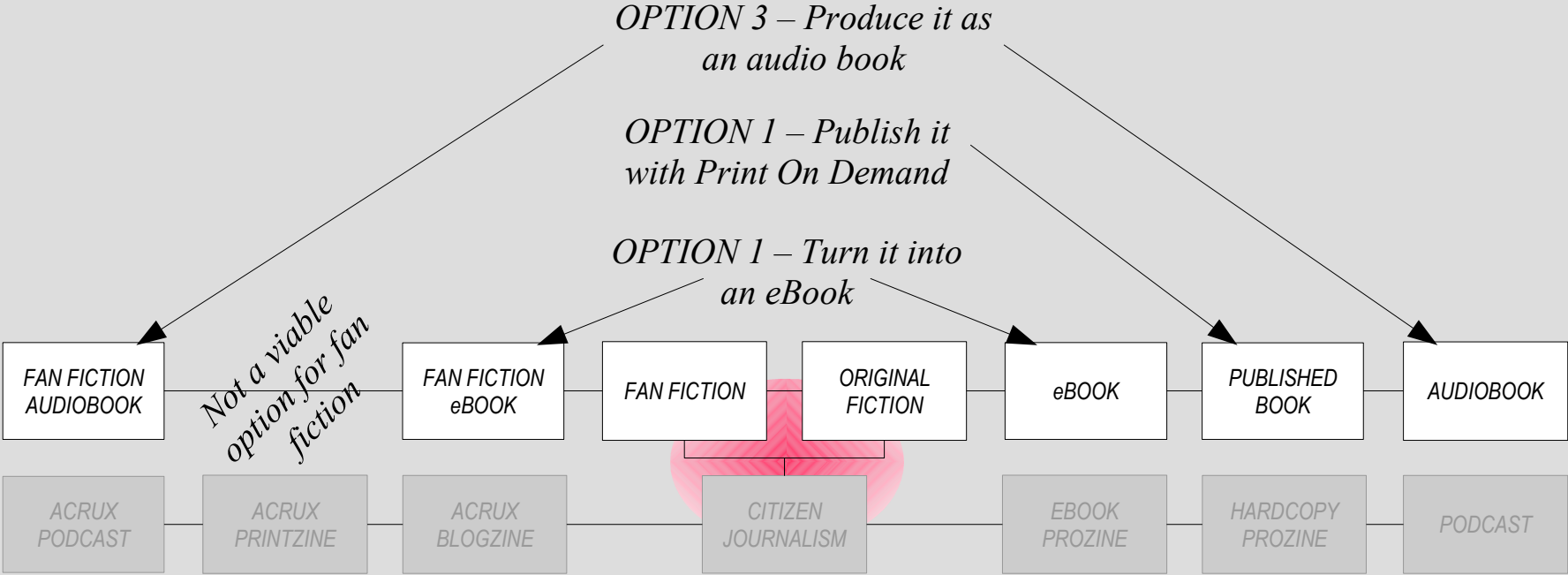


So now you have your story, what are you going to do with it?

Level 2 – Written Fiction



Let's assume you have a good story. You are confident it's good, it's been edited for spelling & grammar, it's had good critique, you've posted it on the forums and writing sites ... but you really feel that more people would read it if you could get it distributed more widely.





You might feel that your idea would make a good drama but you don't know how to develop it ...

Level 3 - Audio drama

Perhaps you've heard other audio dramas and like the idea of creating a drama in “the theatre of the mind” ...

... or perhaps your audio book fired your imagination!

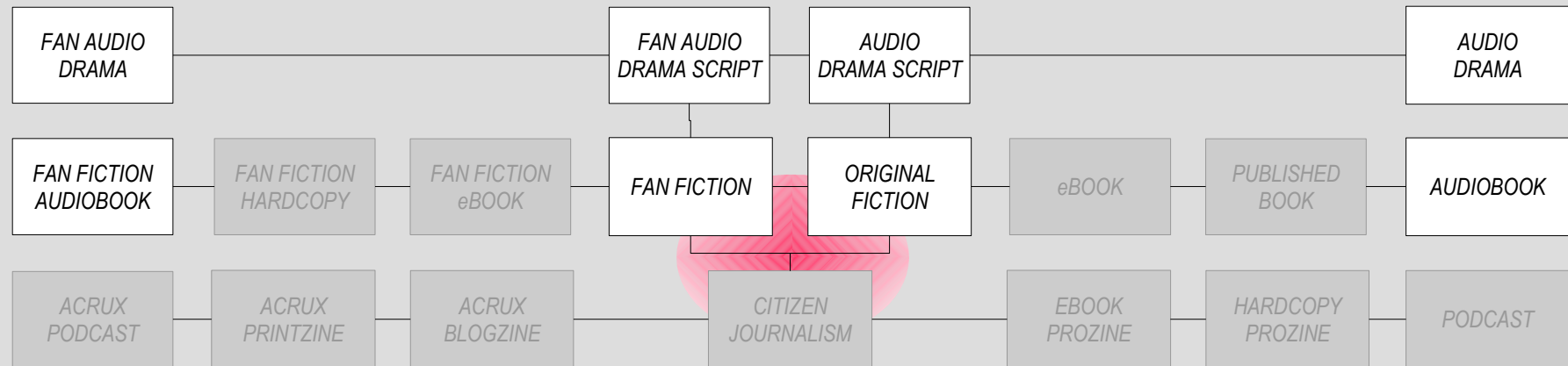
Using your original story as a treatment, you could create a script for an audio drama.

It's a specialised form of writing that has problems and rewards that are unique to the audio media.

Its major advantage is that you can create a dramatic production with far fewer resources than for video drama

In Australasia we have an advantage in that radio drama is still a viable part of our entertainment media

... and the skills learned, creative and production, are valuable for other types of media



Everyone has made stick-figures move with flip-books as a child and talking about animation brings to mind artists labouriously drawing hundreds of cells for Disney cartoons ...

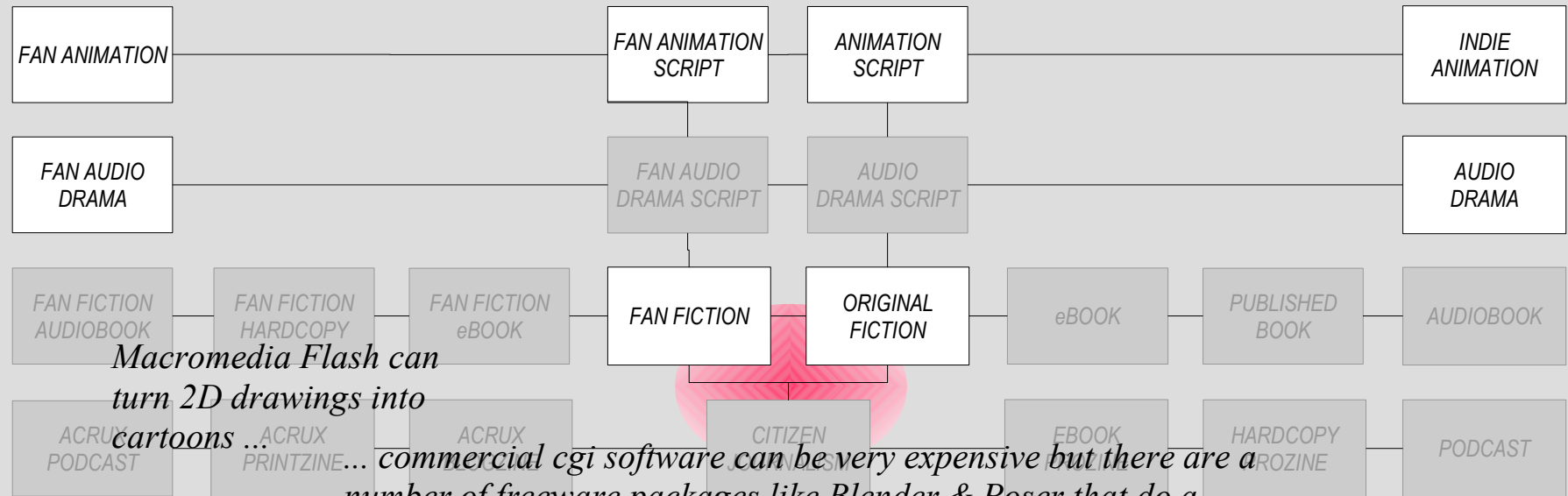
Level 4 - Animation



... That was then, this is now! There are literally dozens of ways that you can create a computer generated animation for a modest investment.

You could use game software to make Machinima, or use the recording software of The Sims, or 'The Movies' to make your own movies ...

... or use the tried-and-true method of stop motion photography with a digital camera to make your own Lego 'Brick movies'!



Macromedia Flash can turn 2D drawings into cartoons ...

commercial cgi software can be very expensive but there are a number of freeware packages like Blender & Poser that do a great job ...

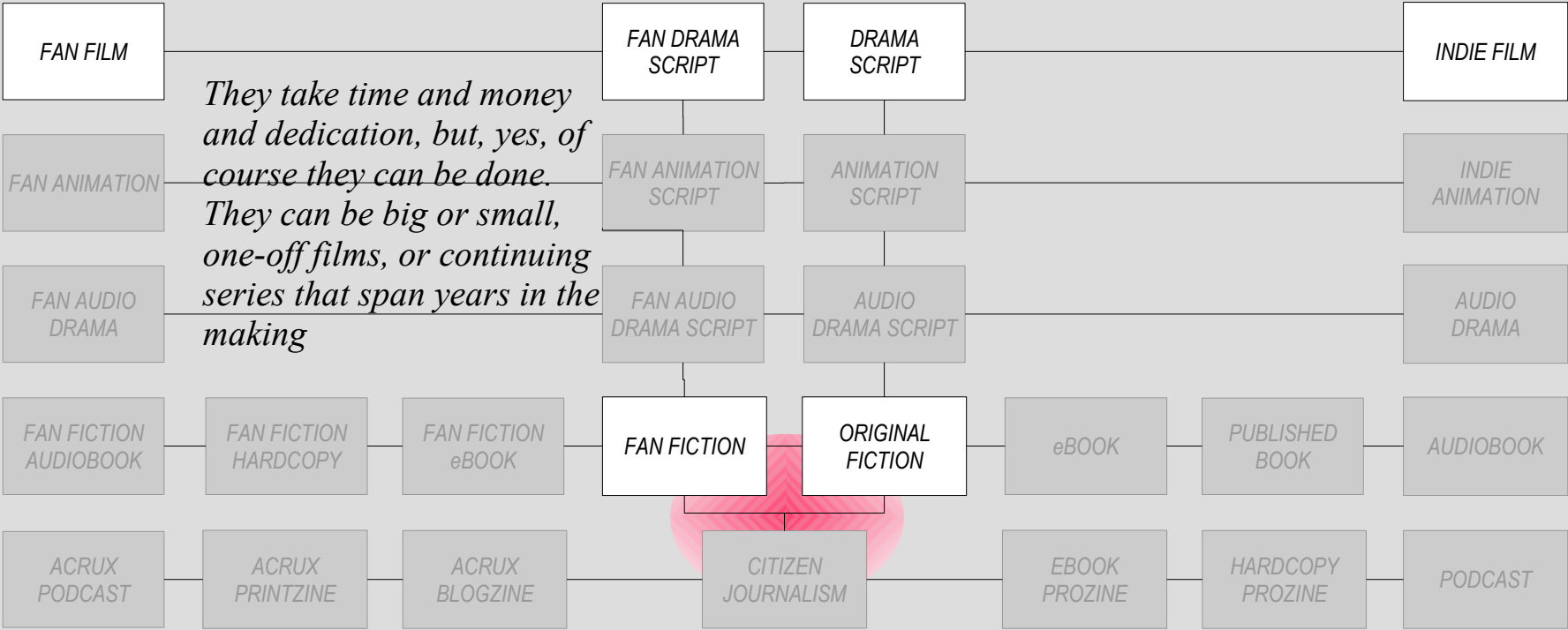
However, everyone in their secret dreams wants to be a movie star, or a producer, or a script-writer ...



Level 5 - Live video drama

They can be done but they are a team effort.

... and yes, they could conceivably get you known to the film or TV producers so that you could break into the professional media! It's a long shot, but it has been done!





The House of L'Stok

| can't make you a better writer ... or actor, sound engineer or cameraman.

| can show you ways that you can share the world that they inhabit, if only for a short time. | can show you ways to be a screen-writer, an actor or a member of the production crew ...

... but | can't show you how to be good at it
- that's up to you!